**THE BOOK OF JOB**

**LESSON 2 - JOB DEPLORES HIS BIRTH; ELIPHAZ SAYS JOB HAS SINNED**

**(JOB 3-4)**

**EXTRA INFO:** We may be disappointed and shocked by the darkness of Job’s words in chapter 3. But keep in mind, while he still believes in God, he’s just a man, who is suffering greatly. *While he sat in the midst of the ashes*, it was like he had become worse than a leper. This begins the first cycle of debates between Job and his friends.

**DAYS ONE AND TWO** **-** Read Job 3:1-26 (Job Deplores his Birth)

1. While Job was not cursing God and not quite wishing he was dead, what was he cursing in verses 1 and 2?

*Answer here*

2. What stands out to you in verses 3-6, that describe Job’s wish that he had never been born?

*Answer here*

3. a. What does verse 7 add about what Job was wishing about the night he was born?

*Answer here*

b. How does verse 8 show the strength of the curse he wished had happened?

*Answer here*

4. What did Job not want to see at this time in verse 9?

*Answer here*

5. As Job left the thought of not being born in verse 10, to now wishing he had been stillborn, share the description that stands out to you in verses 11-12?

*Answer here*

6. How does Job describe what being dead would have been like in verses 13-16?

*Answer here*

7. While there is never a hint that Job wanted to take his own life, what stands out to you as he describes what *being at rest* would be like in verses 17-19?

*Answer here*

8. As Job continues to question his existence while he’s so miserable, what stood out to you in verses 20-22?

*Answer here*

9. Compare Satan’s use of the word *hedge* back in Job 1:10 with Job’s use of *hedged* in verse 23 here.

*Answer here*

10. How do verses 25-26 describe the way Job was feeling?

*Answer here*

**DAYS THREE** **THRU FIVE** - Read Job 4:1- 21 (Eliphaz’s First Speech Saying Job Has Sinned)

1. As we begin here, remember that this friend, like Job, had no idea about the scene in heaven. Again, what had God allowed Satan to do and not to do in Job 1:12?

*Answer here*

2. What does *Eliphaz the Temanite* first ask and then say to Job in chapter 4, verse 2?

*Answer here*

3. How did he begin his speech by kindly acknowledging that Job had done something good for others in verses 3-4?

*Answer here*

4. What same words are found in Isaiah 35:3 and Hebrews 12:12 that echo these words, that are basically saying, “Your words have kept me going and on my feet.”

*Answer here*

5. What did this “friend” say in Job 4:6, suggesting that, if Job was living a godly life, he had nothing to fear; because God always blesses the righteous and judges the wicked?

*Answer here*

6. How do we know that this is not always true, if we read Jeremiah 12:1-3? Share what stands out to you in these verses.

*Answer here*

7. What does Proverbs 3:26 add about our confidence?

*Answer here*

8. What did Eliphaz then say in Job 4:7, that might have initially encouraged Job?

*Answer here*

9. How does this “friend” then begin to change his tone with Job, as he reminds him of the results of sowing and reaping in verses 8-9?

*Answer here*

10. What does Galatians 6:7-9 add to these thoughts about sowing and reaping?

*Answer here*

11. How do we know that what we reap in this life is not always because of sin? Read John 9:1-3 to answer this question.

*Answer here*

12. How then did Eliphaz illustrate how wicked men experience calamity in spite of their strength and resources by comparing them to lions back in Job 4:10-11?

*Answer here*

13. Briefly tell how this friend talked about something that had personally happened to him in verses 12-16?

*Answer here*

14. What did that *voice say* to Eliphaz in verse 17, as he seems to be saying that Job is not holy enough, not righteous enough?

*Answer here*

15. What stood out to you about Eliphaz’s message in verses 18-21, as he said that God judges’ sin and sinners among men and angels, as if they were houses of clay?

*Answer here*

**DISCUSSION:** What did Job need to hear from this “friend” that seemed to be missing here? Read the following verses to answer this question.

Psalm 51:6

*Answer here*

Zechariah 8:16-17

*Answer here*

Ephesians 4:15a

*Answer here*